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ESSENTIALS OF COLLEGE BOTANY—This new textbook by Dr. C. E. Bessey and his son E. A. Bessey, published by Henry Holt and Company, shows a decided advance over the senior author's "The Essentials of Botany" first published 35 years ago. In comparing the two books one cannot but be profoundly impressed with the great change that botany has undergone in this short period of time.

The book is well balanced in its presentation of the various fundamental subjects usually covered in the first course of college botany in America and should be found ideal for use in many colleges and normal schools. One of its highly desirable features is its modern presentation of plant classification, the authors having entirely discarded the antiquated systems still in general use. The phyletic arrangement given will certainly lead the student to a thoughtful study of plant relationships and the evolutionary processes which have brought about the system as one finds it in living plants. The reviewer can well remember some desperate struggles in attempting to harmonize the facts of morphology and evolution as an abstract principle with the classification which was in vogue when he first began the serious study of plants. The student who begins with the "Essentials" will experience no such difficulty and save time for a deeper study of the facts involved.

It appears that just as Bessey's original text presented a new phase in botanical study in America so will the present book lead to a new and better method in the teaching of plant phylogeny and in the arrangement of plant groups and series in taxonomic work and systematic manuals.

J. H. S.